GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:171
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2008
FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND EU
Vallabbhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the European union and India have exchanged lists for identifying the products that will be kept out of a free trade pact;

(b) if so, the details of the lists; and

(c) the final decision taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

a) to c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.171 FOR ANSWER ON 11TH MARCH, 2008 REGARDING "FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA AND EU"

(a) Yes, Sir. During the Third Round of Negotiations for the India − EU Broadbased Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) in December, 2007 in Brussels, both sides exchanged their initial list of Sensitive items.

(b) EU gave a sensitive list of 977 items at 8-digit HS level which covers approximately 10% of India's exports to EU. The list contains items relating to meat and fish products, milk and dairy products, wheat, rice and other agricultural products, sugar, textile products, etc. India also gave its indicative sensitive list of 750 items at 6-digit HS level which covers approximately 18% of EU's exports. India's list covers items relating to fish & marine products, agriculture and dairy products, chemicals, plastics and some components, etc.

(c) The negotiation on Trade in Goods is a part of a single undertaking under the India-EU BTIA which covers agreement on services, investments and other areas. The negotiations are being held and the lists will be finalized when an agreement is reached between both sides at the time of signing of the BTIA.